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Response to 1st Action dated 06/01/2006
Reply to Office Action of 03/01/2006

IN THE CLAIMS:

      This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims, in the Application.

Listing of claims:

1.   (Currently amended) A ~~performance-enhancing~~ method of <u>providing a performance-enhancing way of</u> accessing <u>frequently-accessed</u> file system objects comprising the steps of:

      determining ~~a plurality of~~ <u>at least one frequently-accessed</u> file system ~~objects~~ <u>object in a file system</u> ~~that are frequently being accessed~~ <u>upon mounting the file system at a mount point on a computer system</u>, each file system object having a pathname and an inode number, the inode number for locating the file system object on a storage system;

      entering the pathname of ~~each~~ <u>the at least one</u> file system object into a memory system; and

      cross-referencing the pathname of ~~each~~ <u>the at least one</u> file system object in the memory system with its inode number thereby enabling the inode number to be obtained with one memory access.

2.   (Currently amended) The ~~performance-enhancing~~ method of Claim [[1]] <u>3</u> wherein ~~a pathname is~~ <u>the pathnames in the extended attribute file are relative to the mount point</u> ~~entered into the memory system when a file system containing the file system object is mounted onto the system~~.

3.   (Currently amended) The ~~performance-enhancing~~ method of Claim [[2]] <u>1</u> wherein the determining step includes the step of obtaining from an

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extended attribute file a list of pathnames to be entered into the memory system, the extended attribute file being associated with the mounted file system.

4.   (Currently amended) The ~~performance-enhancing~~ method of Claim [[2]] 1 wherein the determining step includes the step of obtaining ~~a~~ the pathname from a user.

5.   (Currently amended) The ~~performance-enhancing~~ method of Claim [[2]] 1 wherein the determining step includes the step of monitoring accesses to a file system object within a certain time span.

6.   (Currently amended) The ~~performance-enhancing~~ method of Claim [[2]] 1 wherein a the pathname of ~~a~~ the file system object and its cross-referenced inode number are removed from the memory system when the file system containing the file system object is unmounted.

7.   (Currently amended) The performance-enhancing method of Claim [[2]] 1 wherein a pathname of a file system object and its cross-referenced inode number is removed from the memory system when a user so ordered.

8.   (Currently amended) A computer program on a computer readable medium for enhancing performance of a system when frequently-accessed file system objects are being accessed comprising:

code means for determining ~~a plurality of~~ at least one frequently-accessed file system ~~objects~~ object in a file system ~~that are frequently being accessed~~ upon the file system being mounted at a mount point on the system, each file system object having a pathname and an inode number, the inode number for locating the file system object on a storage system;

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code means for entering the pathname of ~~each~~ the at least one file system object into a memory system; and

code means for cross-referencing the pathname of ~~each~~ the at least one file system object in the memory system with its i-node number thereby allowing the inode number to be obtained with one memory access.

9.   (Currently amended) The computer program of Claim [[8]] 10 wherein ~~a pathname is~~ the pathnames in the extended attribute file are relative to the mount point ~~entered into the memory system when a file system containing the file system object is mounted onto the system.~~

10.   (Original) The computer program of Claim 8 wherein the determining code means includes code means for obtaining from an extended attribute file a list of pathnames to be entered into the memory system, the extended attribute file being associated with the mounted file system.

11.   (Currently amended) The computer program of Claim 8 wherein the determining code means includes code means for ~~obtaining~~ obtaining ~~a~~ the pathname from a user.

12.   (Original) The computer program of Claim 8 wherein the determining code means includes code means for monitoring accesses to a file system object within a certain time span.

13.   (Currently amended) The computer program of Claim 8 wherein ~~a~~ the pathname of ~~a~~ the file system object and its cross-referenced inode number are removed from the memory system when the file system containing the file system object is unmounted.

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14.   (Original) The computer program of Claim 8 wherein a pathname of a file
       system object and its cross-referenced inode number is removed from the
       memory system when a user so ordered.

15.   (Currently amended) A system comprising:

       at least one storage system for storing code data; and

       at least one processor for processing the code data to determine a̶
       p̶l̶u̶r̶a̶l̶i̶t̶y̶ ̶o̶f̶ at least one frequently-accessed file system o̶b̶j̶e̶c̶t̶s̶ object in a
       file system t̶h̶a̶t̶-̶a̶r̶e̶-̶f̶r̶e̶q̶u̶e̶n̶t̶l̶y̶-̶b̶e̶i̶n̶g̶-̶a̶c̶c̶e̶s̶s̶e̶d̶ upon the file system being
       mounted at a mount point on the system, each file system object having a
       pathname and an inode number, the inode number for locating the file
       system object on a storage system, to enter the pathname of e̶a̶c̶h̶ the at
       least one file system object into a memory system, and to cross-reference
       the pathname of e̶a̶c̶h̶ the at least one file system object in the memory
       system with its inode number thereby allowing the inode number to be
       obtained with one memory access.

16.   (Currently amended) The system of Claim [[15]] 17 wherein a̶-̶p̶a̶t̶h̶n̶a̶m̶e̶-̶i̶s̶
       the pathnames in the extended attribute file are relative to the mount point
       e̶n̶t̶e̶r̶e̶d̶-̶i̶n̶t̶o̶-̶t̶h̶e̶-̶m̶e̶m̶o̶r̶y̶-̶s̶y̶s̶t̶e̶m̶-̶w̶h̶e̶n̶-̶a̶-̶f̶i̶l̶e̶-̶s̶y̶s̶t̶e̶m̶-̶c̶o̶n̶t̶a̶i̶n̶i̶n̶g̶-̶t̶h̶e̶-̶f̶i̶l̶e̶
       s̶y̶s̶t̶e̶m̶-̶o̶b̶j̶e̶c̶t̶-̶i̶s̶-̶m̶o̶u̶n̶t̶e̶d̶-̶o̶n̶t̶o̶-̶t̶h̶e̶-̶s̶y̶s̶t̶e̶m̶.

17.   (Original) The system of Claim 15 wherein the code data is further
       processed to obtain from an extended attribute file a list of pathnames to
       be entered into the memory system, the extended attribute file being
       associated with the mounted file system.

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18.   (Currently amended) The system of Claim 15 wherein the code data is
further processed to obtain a the pathname from a user.

19.   (Original) The system of Claim 15 wherein the code data is further
processed to monitor accesses to a file system object within a certain time
span.

20.   (Currently amended) The system of Claim 15 wherein a the pathname of a
the file system object and its cross-referenced inode number are removed
from the memory system when the file system containing the file system
object is unmounted.

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